

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY LAKE)	ORDER GRANTING
REGION ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. AND)	APPROVAL OF BOUNDARY
OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY FOR)	CHANGE
APPROVAL OF A BOUNDARY CHANGE)	EL01-030

On November 28, 2001, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint petition from Lake Region Electric Association, Inc. (LREA) and Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval of an electric service territory agreement. Following Commission Staff's inquiry, on December 10, 2001, LREA and Otter Tail requested that the electric service territory agreement be amended to reflect that the companies were requesting a territory boundary change instead. Alan Neilan, the current property owner, is in agreement with the change.

On December 12, 2001, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the parties' request for approval of the boundary change. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-42, and 49-34A-55. Further, the Commission finds that the proposed transfer of property between LREA and Otter Tail will avoid the unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to the customer, and promote the efficient and economical use and development of the electric systems of LREA and Otter Tail. Finally the Commission finds that the approval of the boundary change is in the public interest and the request shall be granted. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of the boundary change is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of December, 2001.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By:_____
Date:_____
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner